



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



IDEAL

Considerations for Integrating the Graduation Approach within Resilience Food Security Activities

March 2, 2023 | 8:00-10:00 am ET

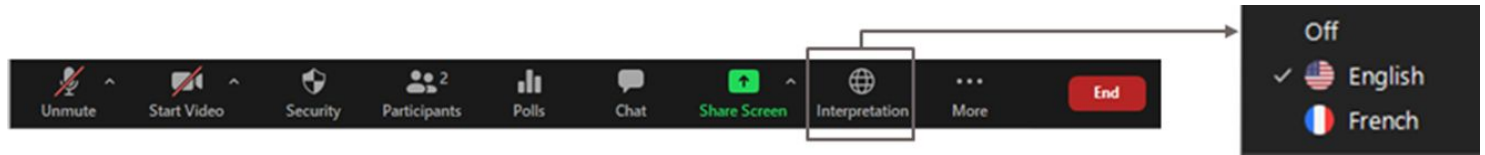
Interpretation

Everyone must select a language!

- Click “interpretation” at the bottom of your Zoom window
- Select the language that you would like to hear

Chacun doit choisir une langue !

- Cliquez sur « interprétation » au bas de votre écran Zoom
- Sélectionnez la langue de votre choix





Agenda

- Summary Presentation of IDEAL Report (20 mins)
- Panel Discussion (40 mins)
- Discussion with Audience (30 mins)
- Key Takeaways (15 mins)

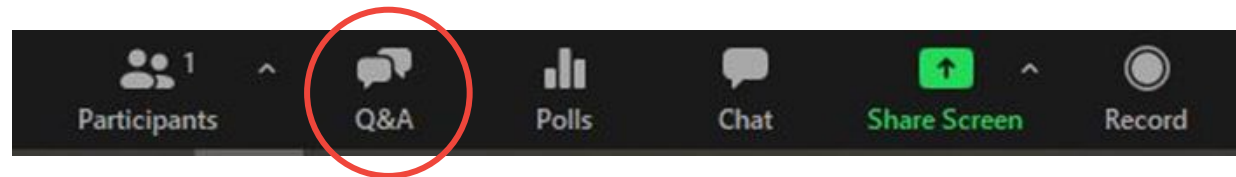
Questions & Answers

Post your questions in the Q&A box!

- Click "Q&A" at the bottom of your Zoom window

Posez vos questions dans la boîte Q&R!

- Cliquez sur « Q&R » au bas de votre écran Zoom



The background is a solid teal color. Two overlapping speech bubbles are centered horizontally. The left bubble has a tail pointing towards the top-left corner, and the right bubble has a tail pointing towards the bottom-right corner. The text is centered within the overlapping area of the two bubbles.

The Graduation Approach

The Graduation Approach

The graduation approach is a sequenced, layered and integrated household-level intervention designed to push households beyond food insecurity and extreme poverty into secure, sustainable, and resilient livelihoods.

Five core components:

1. Mentoring and coaching,
2. Consumption smoothing support,
3. Savings groups for financial inclusion,
4. Training, and
5. Livelihoods selection and asset transfer

The Graduation Approach in RFSA's

Graduation programming within RFSA's can be categorized into two approaches:

1. a “**fully integrated**” approach where all participants targeted by the RFSA receive the graduation programming package of interventions; and
2. a “**subset**” approach where only a subset of RFSA participants receive the graduation programming package.

The background is a solid teal color. Two overlapping speech bubbles are centered horizontally. The bubble on the left has a tail pointing towards the top-left corner. The bubble on the right has a tail pointing towards the bottom-right corner. The text is centered within the overlapping area of the two bubbles.

The Three RFSA Case Studies

Graduating to Resilience, Uganda

Who: Extremely poor refugee and host community households

When: Oct. 2017-Sept. 2024

Where: Rwamwanja Refugee Settlement - Kamwenge district, Western Uganda

Why: 1) Improve food security/nutrition and alleviate poverty by shifting subsistence smallholder farmers to market-oriented, climate-smart farming.

2) Build the capacity of households and communities to prepare for and cope with health and climate shocks.

3) Increase levels of knowledge around nutrition, health, and hygiene.

How: Fully integrated graduation approach delivering all core components



Photo Credit: Graduating to Resilience/AVSI Foundation

Nobo Jatra, Bangladesh

Who: Extremely poor households.

When: Oct. 2015- Dec. 2022, but a second phase (NJP II) is underway.

Where: Khulna and Satkira districts, Bangladesh.

Why: Improve gender equitable food security, nutrition, and resilience of vulnerable people.

How: Integrated WASH, maternal child health and nutrition (MCHN), natural resource management (NRM), and livelihoods interventions. Nobo Jatra implemented the graduation approach with a subset of the greater RFSA.



Photo Credit: Nobo Jatra / World Vision Bangladesh

Nuyok, Uganda

Who: Extremely poor and vulnerable households

When: Oct. 2017-Sept. 2023

Where: Four districts of Karamoja, Uganda. Rural Entrepreneurship Access Project (REAP) Piloted in Napak.

Why: Build resilience to shocks, enhance livelihoods, and improve food security and nutrition.

How: Working primarily through Mother Care Groups, the activity layers and sequences interventions related to financial inclusion, capacity building, WASH, and agricultural production. Nuyok is piloting the graduation approach with a subset of the poorest households using the BOMA Project's Rural Entrepreneur Access Project (REAP) model.



Photo Credit: Nuyok / CRS Uganda

Overview of the RFSA's

	Graduation to Resilience	Nobo Jatra	Nuyok
Country	Uganda	Bangladesh	Uganda
RFSA Consortium	AVSI Foundation; Trickle Up, American Institutes for Research (formerly IMPAQ International)	World Vision; Winrock International, World Food Program	CRS; Caritas; The BOMA Project; YouthBuild International; Cooperation for Development; Communication for Development Foundation Uganda
Period of Performance	Oct. 2017-Sept. 2024	Oct. 2015- Dec. 2022	Oct. 2017-Sept. 2023
Activity Participants	79,200	856,116	265,391
Graduation Participants	13,929 HHs Two cohorts of 6,600 HHs	21,000 HHs Three cohorts of 7,000 HHs	1,635 HHs
Length of Graduation Programming	30 months for Cohort 1 and 24 months for Cohort 2	24 months for Cohorts 1 and 2 and 18 months for Cohort 3	24 months
Graduation Approach in RFSA	Fully integrated	Subset	Subset

Graduation Rates Across RFSAs

	Graduation to Resilience	Nobo Jatra	Nuyok
Graduation Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No HH member reduced or skipped meal in last month • All HH's meals contained foods from three food groups GO, GRO, GLO in last week • More than one source of income by more than one HH member • Improved structure • School attendance • HH access to healthcare services in last three months • Drink safe water • Access to and use of hand washing facility and soap • Savings and productive assets amount • Social capital to solve HH problems • self efficacy - Can set and achieve goals to improve well-being of HH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum two sources of income • Had three square meals in the last year • Household owns productive assets • Households have kitchen gardens • Cash savings in an active savings account with a formal financial institution • Use of a sanitary latrine and safe drinking water • Practicing knowledge on disaster preparedness • Conditional: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No child marriage in the household 2. School-aged children are going to school 3. Eligible couples adopt family planning method 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No child going to bed without an evening meal • Household members eat two meals a day • Productive asset base/ value of the REAP business is 25% higher than the total of original cash transfer • Participant can access multiple productive assets (i.e., a business, livestock) • Member of a savings group (with formal constitution and credit and loan protocols), has access to credit, and a minimum of US\$80 in committed savings (as a proxy for sufficient savings to withstand missed or delayed rains) • All eligible primary school-aged girl children are enrolled in primary school
Graduation Terms	Must have NONE of the criteria not met (No RED) at least eight of eleven criteria (90%) marked as green and three as yellow, for three consecutive assessments in a row (Quarters)	Achieve 80% of the essential criteria	Meet all six criteria
Graduation Rates	73%	91.5%	76%

The background is a solid teal color. Two overlapping speech bubbles are centered horizontally. The left bubble has a tail pointing towards the top-left corner, and the right bubble has a tail pointing towards the bottom-right corner. The text is centered within the overlapping area of the two bubbles.

Research Objectives & Findings

Objectives & Learning Questions

The study explored:

1. How are graduation components and processes adapted within each context?
2. How are graduation packages layered and sequenced upon other programs and systems?
3. How are graduation pathways shaped in each RFSA?
4. What evidence exists to show how graduation programming supports nutrition outcomes and resilience in the face of disaster?

AREA OF INQUIRY #1: Adaptation of the Graduation Approach

- **Targeting:** participatory targeting approaches are key but can identify more people than RFSAs can support. Activities must clearly communicate selection process to prevent confusion.
- **Mentoring and coaching:** “special sauce” of graduation approach. Both individual and group coaching/mentoring effective, with the latter being more cost-effective.
- **Consumption smoothing:** Important part of approach, but all three RFSAs faced challenges securing the use and adaptability of technology for consumption smoothing.



Photo Credit: Graduating to Resilience/AVSI Foundation

AREA OF INQUIRY #2: Integration of Graduation Programming

- CLA and MEL teams can assess and adapt component sequencing to bolster the effectiveness of the graduation intervention and respond to target community needs.
- RFSAs with a subset graduation programming should consider how graduation participants could be better linked to and benefit from RFSAs activities as part of graduation programming. They should also implement an exit strategy for graduation participants to “graduate into” or transition fully into other interventions within the RFSAs.
- Private sector linkages have proven important for greater scale, sustainability, and effectiveness of programming.

AREA OF INQUIRY #3: Graduation Pathways

- **The continued success of graduated households depends on the presence of effective support services** which reinforce a household's pathway out of poverty (access to financial institutions complementary development programs, or government social protection programs).
- **Most graduation programs are time-bound, but the time it takes for households to “graduate” can vary.** Programs should consider having mechanisms to monitor individual trajectories and tailor programming duration according to progression of each household.

AREA OF INQUIRY #4: Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning



Photo Credit: Nobo Jatra, World Vision Bangladesh

- Preliminary data shows promising food security, livelihoods, and savings outcomes.
- **RFSAs should use integrated CLA approaches** to ensure responsive, intentional adaptive management practices and support increased knowledge and learning on the effectiveness of graduation programming.
- **RFSAs should implement long-term methods for monitoring graduation participants** to understand the overall effectiveness of graduation programming and its greater impacts on resilience and food security.

The image features a dark teal background with two overlapping, light teal speech bubbles. The bubbles are positioned horizontally, with the left bubble partially overlapping the right one. The text "Panel Discussion" is centered within the overlapping area of the two bubbles.

Panel Discussion



Emily Janoch

Senior Director for
Thought Leadership and
Knowledge Management
and Learning, CARE

Moderator

Speakers



Alex Bekunda

Chief of Party, Nobo Jatra II Program

World Vision International,
Bangladesh



Joyce Emai

Graduation Advisor, Nuyok Program

Catholic Relief Services, Uganda



Rita Larok

Chief of Party, Graduating to Resilience

AVSI Uganda



Vidya Diwakar

Deputy Director

Chronic Poverty
Advisory Network

Research Fellow

Institute of
Development Studies



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Thank you!

Please fill out the evaluation:

www.ideal.events/eval

This presentation is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the Implementer-led Design, Evidence, Analysis and Learning (IDEAL) Activity and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.